

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**CUSTOMER NO.: 22927**

Confirmation No.: 4361

Applicants: WALKER *et al.*

Application No.: 09/223,901

Filed: December 31, 1998

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ENCOURAGING COMPETITIVE  
PARTICIPATION IN AN AUCTION

Attorney Docket No.: 98-084

Group Art Unit: 3628

Examiner: Akiba K. Robinson Boyce

**RESPONSE**

**to the Non-final Office Action mailed on January 7, 2010**

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner:

In response to the Non-final Office Action mailed on January 7, 2010 as Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20100101 (hereinafter the "Office Action"), please consider the following remarks.

For convenience, following is a detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application. A status identifier is provided for every claim and the current text of every claim is presented, unless the claim has been cancelled or not entered.